



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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Memorandum

TO: Minority Citizens Advisory Committee

DATE: March 2, 2010

FR: Pam Grove, Public Information Officer

W.I. 1114

RE: Staff Report – March 2010

Update on New Policy Advisory Council

The application period for MTC's new Policy Advisory Council closed Monday, February 1st. The Commission will review applications in February and will recommend appointments for approval at the March Legislation Committee and final approval at the March Commission meeting. If you have questions about the next phase in the recruitment process, please contact me at pgrove@mtc.ca.gov or 510.817.5706.

Oakland Airport Connector Project Update

On February 12, 2010, MTC received a letter from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) rejecting BART's Title VI corrective action plan. Pursuant to MTC Resolution No. 3942, the \$70 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds that had been committed to the Oakland Airport Connector were automatically redirected to the Tier 2 back-up list of projects sponsored by the various Bay Area transit operators. Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act governs, in part, how transit agencies reach out to low-income, minority and limited English proficiency communities when making service and fare changes. For the complete story, go to MTC's Web site at <http://www.mtc.ca.gov/news/info/oakconnector.htm>.

Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities and Smart Growth

In an effort to promote smart growth, the Obama administration is working to increase federal support to communities committed to providing more walkable neighborhoods and alternative modes of transportation other than the car. Through an interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities, the federal administration is asking the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to cooperate in promoting smart growth policies. The president's efforts include a \$527 million funding request for the Partnership in his FY 2011 budget.

Here is an online article with a fairly good write-up on the Partnership:

<http://www.grist.org/article/2010-02-24-obama-admin-wants-to-green-your-local-community>

And for more information about the Partnership, visit <http://www.epa.gov/dced/partnership>.

MTC High School Internship Program Reminder

Just a reminder that the 2010 MTC High School Internship program is underway, and any assistance you can give in getting the word out to students is appreciated. Please direct students and program coordinators to the MTC Web site at http://www.mtc.ca.gov/jobs/high_school/ for a list of potential jobs and more information on the program. Questions should be directed to the High School Internship Coordinator at highschool@mtc.ca.gov or 510.817.5807. The application deadline is March 26, 2010.